



Top 10 Traveler Tips

10. This holiday season, many travelers may be looking for good deals on items from electronics to toys and apparel. However, keep in mind that items bought from street vendors may not only be counterfeit but could also pose safety risks.
9. Declare “duty-free goods,” even if purchased in “duty-free” stores.
8. Do not attempt to bring unauthorized fruits, meats, and dairy products into the United States without first checking whether they are permitted.
7. Know the difference between goods for personal use vs. commercial use.
6. Know the difference between prohibited merchandise (such as ivory, tortoise shell products, absinthe, and counterfeit items) and restricted merchandise.
5. Be aware that many foreign manufactured medications are not FDA-approved and, consequently, cannot be brought into the U.S. Also, when traveling abroad, bring only the amount of medication you’ll need during the trip.
4. Do not attempt to return with Cuban cigars, no matter where they were purchased.
3. Know the rules governing the \$800 exemption on goods brought back from abroad.
2. Understand that, CBP officers have the authority to conduct enforcement examinations without a warrant, ranging from a single luggage examination up to and possibly including a personal search.
1. Be sure and read “Know Before You Go” – don’t rely on advice from friends and shopkeepers on what items “will clear Customs.” You may request a print copy of the brochure by ordering from our online Ordering Publications form.